

## Legislative Fiscal Office

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## Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Sen. Betsy Johnson, Senate Co-Chair  
Sen. Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Senate Co-Chair  
Rep. Dan Rayfield, House Co-Chair

Sen. Jackie Winters, Senate Co-Vice Chair  
Rep. David Gomberg, House Co-Vice Chair  
Rep. Greg Smith, House Co-Vice Chair

**To:** Human Services Subcommittee

**From:** Tom MacDonald, Legislative Fiscal Office

**Date:** June 4, 2019

**Subject:** SB 526 – Relating to home visiting

Senate Bill 526 requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to establish a voluntary statewide universal nurse home visiting program for families with newborns to support healthy child development and strengthen families. The home visiting services offered to families must include at least one visit during the newborn's first three months with the opportunity for the family to choose up to three additional visits.

The bill also requires health benefit plans in Oregon to reimburse the cost of universal newborn nurse home visiting services without cost-sharing, coinsurance, or deductibles. In addition to the bill's provision regarding the voluntary nature of the program, the measure specifies that enrollees in health benefit plans are not required to receive nurse home visiting services as a condition of coverage and may not be penalized or discouraged from declining the services.

OHA estimates the 2019-21 fiscal impact to total \$1.6 million, of which \$1.4 million is General Fund, and four positions. Because the bill addresses program design and commercial insurance coverage, the fiscal impact does not reflect costs for providing universal nurse home visiting services to families eligible for Medicaid, which is separately proposed as part of OHA's 2019-21 budget recommendation (Policy Option Package 401). The fiscal impact on the Oregon Educators Benefit Board, Public Employees' Benefit Board, and Department of Consumer and Business Services is indeterminate.

Section 5 of the A-engrossed version establishes a blank General Fund appropriation in OHA to support the bill's fiscal impact. Because the costs of the bill, as well as the separately proposed coverage of services through Medicaid, are part of OHA Policy Option Package 401, the recommended -A2 amendment removes the appropriation language in the SB 526. If approved, funding to support the program will be included in OHA's budget bill (SB 5525).

**Recommended Amendments**

LFO recommends adoption of the -A2 amendment.

**MOTION: I move adoption of the -A2 amendment to SB 526 (VOTE)**

**Final Subcommittee Action**

LFO recommends that SB 526, as amended by the -A2 amendment, to be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

**MOTION: I move SB 526, as amended, to the Full Committee with a do pass recommendation. (VOTE)**

**Carriers**

Full Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

House Floor: \_\_\_\_\_

Senate Floor: \_\_\_\_\_